

Committee No. 8
WORLD MISSIONS

Reference: RTD, pp. 73-77

Report No. 1

We give thanks to our Lord that our WELS Board for World Missions is carrying out “the responsibility of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ for the discipling of all people living outside the United States of America and Canada and those people who, because of cultural barriers, have not been made the responsibility of other agencies of WELS” (WELS Bylaws, Sec. 6.1).

Report No. 2

We give thanks that WELS World Missions is conducting and encouraging outreach in 46 foreign countries and is exploring outreach opportunities in 19 prospective new mission fields.

Report No. 3

We give thanks that forty-seven world missionaries partner with more than 500 national pastors to conduct outreach and train more than 400 seminary students for service in Christ’s kingdom.

Report No. 4

We give thanks for the coordination of efforts between our Pastoral Studies Institute of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, the Commission on Inter-Church Relations, our diaspora ministry facilitators and our WELS world missionaries in sharing the Gospel and identifying and training local leaders in our mission fields to share the Gospel.

Report No. 5

We give thanks that the advance of technology around the world has allowed us to reach with the gospel into places that were before unreachable, and that our Multi-Language Productions is reaching many through Academia Cristo, which trains Spanish speakers to share the gospel in their location and context, as well as through the TELL (Think, Evaluate, Learn, Lead) Network which trains second-language English speakers to do the same, and now more than 300 potential TELL church planters are being paired with WELS missionary mentors.

Report No. 6

We give thanks that WELS missionaries continue to serve and identify new areas to go to share the gospel in Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, Latin America and among Native Americans in North America.

Report No. 7

We give thanks to God for the growing number of the fellowship of believers outside the USA (which may soon outnumber the number of WELS members) and ask God to bless the work of our Board for World Missions and supply us with faithful workers to serve and train for outreach with the Gospel message.

Report No. 8

We encourage lay members to participate in the WELS Mission Journeys program in order to gain hands-on experience assisting with the outreach efforts of the Synod abroad and at home, and that more consider full-time work in the world field.

Report No. 9

We give thanks for the PSI (Pastor Studies Institute) team as it trains pastors in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Europe and immigrants in North America.

Report No. 10

We give thanks for the various diaspora ministries that train people of different cultures to take the gospel to their own culture.

Report No. 11

We give thanks for the work of our campus ministries in connecting international students to our fellowship and to one another.

Report No. 12

We ask our living and ascended Lord to protect worldwide missionaries, who face security risks as they share the gospel in these end times. We furthermore ask that our Lord equip and motivate us with Christ's love to share his gospel even further no matter the danger or the cost.

Pastors

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Timothy Smith
Ross Stelljes
Thomas Nass
Keith Petersen
Peter Sulzle
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Heath Dobberpuhl
James Hahm
Jon Hermanson
Maxwell Holmes
Paul Huebner
Samuel Hunter
Steven Jensen
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Martin LaGrow
David Liebhard
Ryan Maertz
David Mielke
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